

REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated March 10, 2005 ("Office Action"). Claims 1 to 27 have been cancelled. Claims 28 to 49 have been added. Claims 28, 33, 39, and 44 are the independent claims. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

With respect to objections lodged against the Specification, the Specification has been amended as suggested in the Office Action. Accordingly, withdrawal of the objections to the Specification is respectfully requested.

With respect to objections against Claims 1, 10 and 19, these claims have all been cancelled and new Claims 28 to 49 substituted therefore. The new claims have been drafted in keeping with the reasoning behind the objections to Claims 1, 10 and 19.

Claims 1 to 27 had been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) over US Patent No. 5,931,951 ("Ando"). New Claims 28 to 49 are believed to define patentably over Ando for at least the following reasons.

New independent Claim 28 is directed to an information processing apparatus comprising a processing means and a mode setting means for setting a mode of a memory. The processing means sets the mode setting means in an enable state, and commands the memory to issue therefrom a power saving mode transfer instruction for setting the processing means in a power saving mode. The mode setting means sets the memory in a power saving mode in accordance with a signal which relates to the setting of the processing means in the power saving mode and inputted to the mode setting means while the mode setting means is in the enabled state.

New independent Claim 39 is a method corresponding to the apparatus of Claim 28.

In contrast, Ando discloses a computer system which has a normal operation mode and a power saving mode, (column 2, lines 21 to 23 of Ando), and a secondary L2 cache memory which has a normal operation mode and a power saving mode, (column 2, lines 27 to 29 of Ando). While Ando discloses a secondary L2 cache memory switching to a power saving mode upon the activation of a power-down signal, (column 10, lines 17 to 24, column 14, lines 17 to 23, and column 16, lines 58 to 60 of Ando), Ando is silent on setting a memory controller (Claim 39) or mode setting means (Claim 28) to an enable state and commanding the memory to issue therefrom a power saving mode transfer instruction for setting the processor (Claim 39) or processing means (Claim 28) in a power saving mode. Moreover, Ando is silent on setting the memory in a power saving mode in accordance with a signal which relates to the setting of a processor (Claim 39) or processing means (Claim 28) in the power saving mode and inputted to the memory controller (Claim 39) or mode setting means (Claim 28) while in the enabled state. Thus, Ando cannot disclose or suggest the feature disclosed in new independent Claims 28 and 39.

New independent Claim 33 is directed to an information processing apparatus comprising a processing means and a mode transfer means for transferring a mode of a memory. The processing means sets the mode transfer means in a waiting state and executes a power saving mode transfer instruction for setting the processing means in a power saving mode. The mode transfer means transfers the memory to a power saving mode after the end of the waiting state.

New independent Claim 44 is a method corresponding to the apparatus of Claim 33.

While Ando discloses a secondary L2 cache memory leaving the sleep mode after a lapse of 100 nanoseconds from when the power-down signal is made inactive, (column 10, lines 31 to 35 of Ando), Ando is silent on setting a memory controller (Claim 44) or mode transfer means (Claim 33) in a waiting state and executing a power saving mode transfer instruction for setting the processor (Claim 44) or processing means (Claim 33) in a power saving mode. Moreover, Ando is silent on a memory controller (Claim 44) or mode transfer means (Claim 33) transferring the memory to a power saving mode after the end of a waiting state. Thus, Ando cannot disclose or suggest the feature disclosed in new independent Claims 33 and 44.

In light of the deficiencies of the cited reference, Applicants submit that new Claims 28, 33, 39 and 44 are now in condition for allowance and respectfully request same.

The other pending claims in this application are each dependent from the independent claims discussed above and are therefore believed patentable for at least the same reasons. However, individual consideration of each dependent claim on its own merits is respectfully requested as each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa,
California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to
our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael K. O'Neill", written over a horizontal line.

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